

Cape Cod National Seashore

Activities May 1 through May 26, 2006

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Seashore



SATURDAYS

Eastham



TOUR: CAPTAIN EDWARD PENNIMAN HOUSE

11 AM, 1 hour. Free. Explore the interior of this historic home. Learn about this whaling captain and his well-traveled family. By RESERVATION ONLY. Call Salt Pond Visitor Center (508) 255-3421 ext. 0, and meet at the Penniman House at Fort Hill.

TALK: THE SCOOP ON SEALS -

2 PM, 45 minutes. Free. People and seals love to play in the water, but did you ever wonder how seals keep the water from going up their noses, or how they're able to stay under that cold water long after we've turned blue? Don't hold your breath! Seals are more different than us than you might realize! Meet at the Salt Pond Visitor Center. Family Program. *May 6th only.*

Wellfleet

WALK: SHORELINE STROLL

10 AM, 1 hour, 1 mile. Free. Walk through the diverse habitats and explore natural processes of the Great Island land bridge known as "the gut." Discover how wildlife has adapted to this area. Meet at Great Island parking area, Wellfleet. Family Program. *No program May 20th.*

Provincetown

BIKE TOUR: PROVINCE LANDS

9 AM, 2 hours, 5-7 miles on paved surface. Free. Pedal by huge sand dunes, jewel-like ponds shaded by beech trees, and out to the "Great Beach." At stops along the way, a ranger will tell the stories behind the scenery. Route includes strenuous hills, narrow trails, and sharp turns. This program is not recommended for beginners. By RESERVATION ONLY. Call the Province Lands Visitor Center at (508) 487-1256. *May 13th and 20th only.*

SLIDESHOW: SALT MARSHES AND SEA LEVEL RISING - 2 PM, 1 hour. Free. Once seen as wasted real estate and breeding grounds for mosquitoes, Cape Cod's most productive habitats are finally getting the recognition they deserve. As nurseries for fish, sources of nutrients, absorbers of pollution, and buffers from storms, the value and intrigue of salt marshes can't be overestimated! Meet at the Province Lands Visitor Center auditorium. *May 13th only.*

Salt Pond Visitor Center
Route 6, Eastham
(508) 255 - 3421

Province Lands Visitor Center
Province Lands Road, Provincetown
(508) 487 - 1256

website: www.nps.gov/caco

Cape Cod Maritime Days May 13 - 21

Now in its 13th year, this Cape-wide event celebrates Cape Cod's rich maritime history.

Full details are at: www.ecapechamber.com/MaritimeDays/schedule.htm.
The following programs are occurring in Cape Cod National Seashore:

LIGHTHOUSE TOURS AND OPEN HOUSES:

Race Point Lighthouse Tour: Sunday, May 21st, 10 AM to 3 PM. Free. Tour this light, located at the tip of the Cape. Meet at Race Point Beach Parking area, Provincetown. Transportation provided. *Presented by the Cape Cod Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation.*

Highland Lighthouse Tours: May 14th to 22nd, 10 AM to 4 PM. Admission charged. Climb to the top of the light! Also, view a video depicting the history, moving, and relighting of the lighthouse. Children must be 51" tall to climb the stairs. Highland Light Road, North Truro. *Presented by Highland Museum and Lighthouse.*

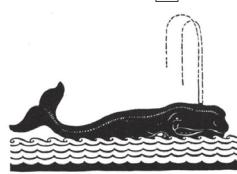
Nauset Light Tours: Sundays, May 14th and 21st, and Saturday, May 20th, 1 to 4 PM. Free. Climb to the top of the light and learn about the history and importance of this lighthouse. Meet at Nauset Light Beach, Eastham. *Presented by Nauset Light Preservation Society.*

Three Sisters Lighthouses Open House: Sundays, May 14th and 21st, 1 to 4 PM. Free. View these lights that once served as beacons for sailors off the shores of Nauset Light Beach. Park at Nauset Light Beach in Eastham, and walk the paved path to the lights. Free. *Presented by Cape Cod National Seashore.*



FAMILY PROGRAM:

From Blowholes to Baleen: Whales in Story and Song: Saturday, May 20th, 10 to 11:30 AM. Free. Enjoy storytelling, a presentation on the natural history of whales, and a sing-along of rollicking sea chanties and other songs of the sea. Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Route 6 and Nauset Road, Eastham. *An "Eastham Reads Massachusetts History" program presented by the Friends of Eastham Library, in partnership with Cape Cod National Seashore.*



HISTORIC STRUCTURE TOURS AND OPEN HOUSES:

Old Harbor Life-Saving Station: Saturday, May 20th and Sunday, May 21st, 1:30 to 3:30 PM. Free. Browse this 1898 life-saving station, and view exhibits related to dramatic rescues and the lives of turn-of-the-century surfmen. Park at Race Point Beach in Provincetown. Take the short walk out to Old Harbor. *Presented by Cape Cod National Seashore.*



TALKS:

Penniman Family Album: Saturday, May 20th, 11 AM. Free. Learn about a whaling captain, his family, and their adventures at sea. Meet at the Penniman House at Fort Hill, off Route 6 in Eastham. By RESERVATION ONLY. Call (508) 255-3421 x 0. *Presented by Cape Cod National Seashore.*

The Hay Barge - Workhorse of the Salt Marsh: Thursday, May 18th, 2 PM. Free. Join a researcher and marine surveyor for an illustrated talk about the hay barge, an important survivor of local agricultural history, and learn of the plans by the National Park Service to document and display this rare boat. Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Route 6 and Nauset Road, Eastham. *Presented by Cape Cod National Seashore.*



Early Communications on Cape Cod: Saturdays, May 13th and 20th, 2 PM. 1 hour. Free. An illustrated lecture and award-winning documentary about RCA, Marconi, Chatham radio, and ship-to-shore communication.

Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Route 6 and Nauset Road, Eastham. *Presented by Chatham Marconi Maritime Center.*

WALKS:

Provincetown's Past: Monday, May 15th, 9 AM. Free. Take a walking tour through historic Provincetown. Two miles, two hours. Meet at the Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum, High Pole Road, Provincetown. *Presented by Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum, and Cape Cod National Seashore.*

SUNDAYS

WALK: ARCHEOLOGY ON THE CAPE

- Free. Learn about the process of archeology, and the various discoveries archeology has uncovered within Cape Cod National Seashore. Location and meeting time varies:

May 7th, 10:30 AM, 1½ hours, 1 mile.

COAST GUARD BEACH - Meet at Coast Guard Beach parking area, Eastham;

May 14th, 10:30 AM, 1½ hours, 1 mile.

FORT HILL - Meet at Hemenway town landing, Eastham (one road north of Fort Hill, off Route 6).

May 21st, 9:30 AM, 2½ hours, 2½ miles.

GREAT ISLAND - Meet at Great Island parking area, Wellfleet.

Eastham

WALK: LORE OF NAUSET MARSH

2 PM, 1½ hours, 1½ miles. Free. Learn about the rich natural and human history around Nauset Marsh and how each has affected the other over time. Meet on the terrace at the Salt Pond Visitor Center.

TOUR: THREE SISTERS LIGHT-

HOUSES - 3 PM, 1 hour, ½ mile. Free.

These 19th-century lighthouses once provided a beacon for sailors off the shore of Nauset Light Beach. Learn of their history and importance. Meet at Nauset Light Beach parking area. *May 7th only.* 

Provincetown

WALK: PROVINCE LANDS

DUNES AND BOGS - 10 AM, 1 hour, 1 mile in loose sand. Free. Explore an enchanting dune landscape of unusual plants and wild cranberry bogs, and discover the hidden story of America's oldest public lands. Meet at Province Lands Visitor Center.

Grand Reopening of Salt Pond Visitor Center Saturday, May 20th, 10 AM to 3:30 PM



Celebrate the "official" reopening of the rehabilitated visitor center! Enjoy the view of Salt Pond, Nauset Marsh, and the Atlantic. Join special programs offered by park staff and partners. Explore the artifacts on display in the museum. Peruse the books, puzzles, maps, games, toys and other interpretive items available in the bookstore. All activities are free! 

Art Exhibit: "Cape Cod National Seashore is special because..." featuring art created by Eastham children.

The Salt Pond Museum - EXPOSED!

Expert guides will introduce you to the fascinating stories museum artifacts tell. 

Plein Air Painting by the Eastham Painter's Guild.



Flex Bus mid-day "Open House"

Check out this new bus service!

**...and more! Check the park's website www.nps.gov/caco.
Click on: "Special Events."**

TUESDAYS

Truro

HIKE: PILGRIM LAKE DUNES

10 AM, 2 hours, 2 miles in soft sand. Free.

Explore some of the biggest sand dunes on the Cape, and learn how they formed and have changed over the years. Meet at the dirt parking area at the end of High Head Road, off Route 6, North Truro. *May 16th and 23rd only.*



Provincetown

OPEN HOUSE: OLD HARBOR LIFE SAVING STATION

1:30 to 4 PM. Free. Browse through an 1898 life-saving station. Here, teams of skilled mariners battled tremendous storms to rescue shipwreck victims from the "Graveyard of the Atlantic." Exhibits, rescue equipment, and stories shared by museum staff bring the station to life. Park at Race Point Beach. *May 16th and 23rd only.*

WEDNESDAYS

Provincetown

SLIDESHOW: PIPING PLOVERS

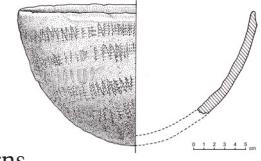
3 PM, 1 hour. Free. Have you noticed the roped-off nesting areas along the beaches and wondered about the inconspicuous little shorebirds that are getting all the attention? Discover their fascinating story in pictures. Meet at the Province Lands Visitor Center auditorium. *May 24th only.* 

SPECIAL PROGRAM

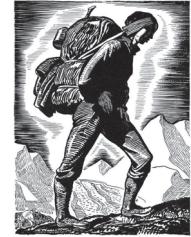
The Carns Site and Its Place in Cape Cod Archeology

Wednesday, May 10th, 7 PM, Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham. Free.

Celebrate the publication and release of the long-awaited Carns report! Join archeologist and report author, James W. Bradley, for a presentation and discussion about the project, followed by refreshments and a book signing. 



EXPLORE YOUR PARK



Join an experienced ranger and explore the beauty and variety of park destinations, resources or stories.

Walks are moderate to strenuous. All programs occur on Tuesdays, meet at 9 AM, and are free. Reservations required. Call Salt Pond Visitor Center (508) 255 - 3421 x 0, to reserve.

HIKE: ROLL WITH IT - Exploring the Dynamics of Barrier Beach Systems

May 2nd. 3 hours, 3 miles. Hike along Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, and discover the ever-changing physical world of barrier beaches - including inlet formation, beach migration, and their crucial importance to the Cape Cod coast. Meet at the Coast Guard beach parking area, Eastham. Be prepared to walk through soft sand.

HIKE: GREAT ISLAND - May 9th.

3 hours, 4 miles. Join a ranger for an interesting hike through the marshes, forest and beaches of this former island. Examine the rich natural and cultural history of the area. Wear sturdy foot gear and bring drinking water. Meet at Great Island Trail parking area, Wellfleet.

HIKE: THE "ISLANDS" OF WELFLEET

May 16th. 3 hours, 4 miles. Learn about the early history of Wellfleet by hiking through ancestral lands of the native people and the first English "settled" lands of Wellfleet. Travel along the floodplain of the Herring River on Griffin Island. Good footwear, long pants, insect repellent and water are recommended. Meet at the Great Island parking area, Wellfleet.

HIKE: MARCONI AREA EXPLORATION

May 23rd. 3 hours, 3 miles. Hike along the trails and jeep roads of the Marconi area, and learn about significant events that occurred here in the past. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring water, sunscreen and insect repellent. Meet at the Marconi Beach parking area, Wellfleet.

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